SURAH OF EL-BURUJ

THE RESEARCH:
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EL-BURUJ

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THE REFERENCES

1) https://www.alim.org/surah-info/85/

2) https://www.thelastdialogue.org/surah-resources/surah-bu

BACK

THE BACKGROUND 1

BACK

Its Name 2

- **Arabic Name:** البروج (Al-Buruj)
- **Meaning:** “The Constellations” or “The Great Stars”

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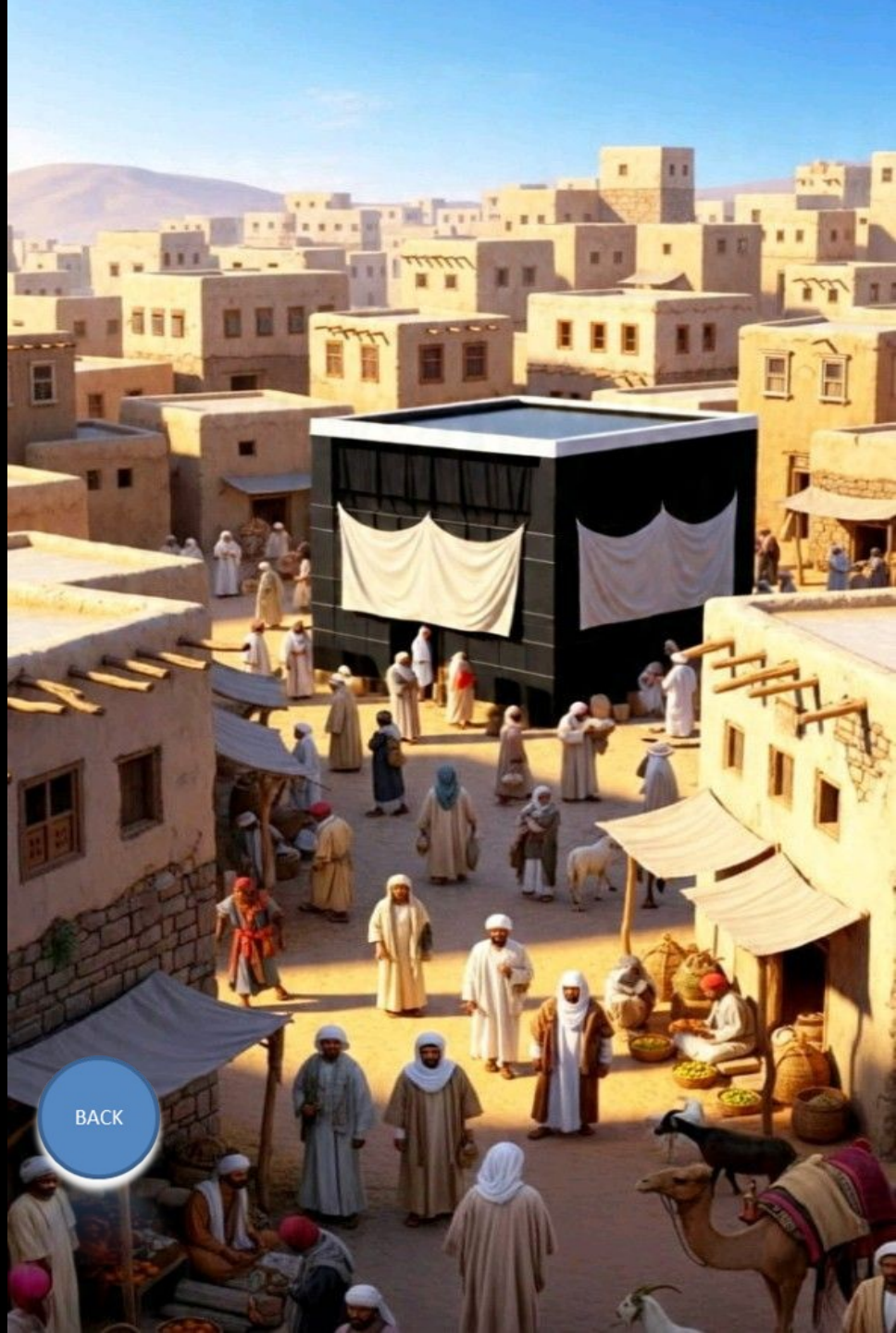
Revelation Period

This Surah was revealed in Makkah during the period when persecution of the Muslims was at its peak and the disbelievers of Makkah were trying their utmost by tyranny and coercion to turn away the new converts from Islam.



Main Topics

- Those who torture the believers will be given the punishment of conflagration on the Day of Judgement
- He Who created you for the first time will bring you back to life again for accountability.

Summary Of Topics

- 1-6(Woe To Defrauders, God Gives Them Warning Of The Last Day),
- 7-9(Record Of Wrongdoers Will Be In Sijjin: A Register Inscribed.),
- 11-15(Deniers Who deny the Day of Recompense: Will Be Parted From Sight Of Allah),

Brief Commentary

This Surah warns the disbelievers of the evil consequences of persecution and tyranny and consoles the believers that if they remain firm and steadfast against tyranny and coercion, they will be rewarded for it, and Allah Himself will avenge their persecutors. In this connection, the story of the people of the ditch (Ashab al-Ukhdud), who had burnt the believers to death by casting them into pits full of fire is related. By means of this story the believers and the disbelievers have been taught a few lessons:

BACK

- That just as the people of the ditch became worthy of Allah's curse and punishment, the chiefs of Makkah are also becoming worthy of it.
- That just as the believers at that time had willingly accepted to sacrifice their lives by being burnt to death in the pits of fire instead of turning away from their faith, so also should the believers now endure every persecution and never give up faith.
- That Allah, to Whom belongs the Kingdom of the earth and heavens, is Praiseworthy and is watching what the two groups are striving for.

Therefore, the disbelievers will not only be punished in Hell for their disbelief but, in addition to that, they also will suffer punishment by fire as a fit recompense for their tyranny and cruelty. The believers who are firm in their belief and do good deeds will go to paradise. This indeed is the supreme success.

BACK

Then the disbelievers are warned that Allah's grip is very severe. If they are proud of the strength of their hosts, they should know that the hosts of Pharaoh and Thamud were even stronger and more numerous. Therefore, they should learn a lesson from the fate these people of the past met. No one can escape Allah's jurisdiction and the Qur'an that they are belying is unchangeable: it is inscribed in the Preserved Tablet, which cannot be destroyed in any way.

THE AYAT IN DETAILS 3

BACK

وَٱلسَّمَآءِ ذَاتِ ٱلۡبُرُوجِ ١

By the sky full of constellations,

BACK

وَٱلۡيَوۡمِ ٱلۡمَوۡعُودِ ٢

and the promised Day [of Judgment],

BACK

وَٱلسَّمَآءِ ذَاتِ ٱلۡبُرُوجِ ١ وَٱلۡيَوۡمِ ٱلۡمَوۡعُودِ ٢ وَشَاهِدٖ وَمَشۡهُودٖ
٣ قُتِلَ أَصۡحَٰبُ ٱلۡأُخۡدُودِ ٤ ٱلنَّارِ ذَاتِ ٱلۡوَقُودِ ٥ إِذۡ هُمۡ عَلَيۡهَا

and the witness and what is witnessed![1]

Footnote - 1

The witness can be Allah, the angels, or the prophets, and the witnessed can be the people standing for judgment or the overwhelming events of Judgment Day.

قُتِلَ أَصۡحَٰبُ ٱلۡأُخۡدُودِ ٤

Condemned
are the makers
of the ditch—

BACK

النَّارِ ذَاتِ الْوَقُودِ ۝٥

the fire □pit□,
filled with fuel
—

BACK

قُتِلَ أَصْحَٰبُ ٱلْأُخْدُودِ ﴿٤﴾ ٱلنَّارِ ذَاتِ ٱلْوَقُودِ ﴿٥﴾ إِذْ هُمْ عَلَيْهَا
قُعُودٌ ﴿٦﴾ وَهُمْ عَلَىٰ مَا يَفْعَلُونَ بِٱلْمُؤْمِنِينَ شُهُودٌ ﴿٧﴾ وَمَا نَقَمُوا۟

when they sat around it,

BACK

وَهُمْ عَلَىٰ مَا يَفْعَلُونَ بِالْمُؤْمِنِينَ شُهُودٌ ﴿٧﴾

watching what they had ordered to be done to the believers,

BACK

قُعُودٌ ﴿٦﴾ وَهُمْ عَلَىٰ مَا يَفْعَلُونَ بِالْمُؤْمِنِينَ شُهُودٌ ﴿٧﴾ وَمَا نَقَمُوا
مِنْهُمْ إِلَّا أَن يُؤْمِنُوا بِاللَّهِ الْعَزِيزِ الْحَمِيدِ ﴿٨﴾ الَّذِي لَهُ مُلْكُ

who they resented for no reason other than belief in Allah —the Almighty, the Praiseworthy —

BACK

مِنْهُمْ إِلَّآ أَن يُؤْمِنُوا۟ بِٱللَّهِ ٱلْعَزِيزِ ٱلْحَمِيدِ ﴿٨﴾ ٱلَّذِى لَهُۥ مُلْكُ
ٱلسَّمَٰوَٰتِ وَٱلْأَرْضِ ۚ وَٱللَّهُ عَلَىٰ كُلِّ شَىْءٍ شَهِيدٌ ﴿٩﴾ إِنَّ ٱلَّذِينَ

the One to Whom belongs the kingdom of the heavens and earth. And Allah is a Witness over all things.

BACK

ٱلسَّمَٰوَٰتِ وَٱلْأَرْضِ ۗ وَٱللَّهُ عَلَىٰ كُلِّ شَىْءٍ شَهِيدٌ ﴿٩﴾ إِنَّ ٱلَّذِينَ
فَتَنُوا۟ ٱلْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَٱلْمُؤْمِنَٰتِ ثُمَّ لَمْ يَتُوبُوا۟ فَلَهُمْ عَذَابُ جَهَنَّمَ وَلَهُمْ
عَذَابُ ٱلْحَرِيقِ ﴿١٠﴾ إِنَّ ٱلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا۟ وَعَمِلُوا۟ ٱلصَّٰلِحَٰتِ لَهُمْ

Those who persecute the believing men and women and then do not repent will certainly suffer the punishment of Hell and the

عَذَابُ ٱلْحَرِيقِ ﴿١٠﴾ إِنَّ ٱلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا۟ وَعَمِلُوا۟ ٱلصَّٰلِحَٰتِ لَهُمْ
جَنَّٰتٌ تَجْرِى مِن تَحْتِهَا ٱلْأَنْهَٰرُ ۚ ذَٰلِكَ ٱلْفَوْزُ ٱلْكَبِيرُ ﴿١١﴾ إِنَّ بَطْشَ

Surely those who believe and do good will have Gardens under which rivers flow. That is the greatest triumph.

BACK

جَنَّٰتٌ تَجۡرِي مِن تَحۡتِهَا ٱلۡأَنۡهَٰرُۚ ذَٰلِكَ ٱلۡفَوۡزُ ٱلۡكَبِيرُ ﴿١١﴾ إِنَّ بَطۡشَ
رَبِّكَ لَشَدِيدٌ ﴿١٢﴾ إِنَّهُۥ هُوَ يُبۡدِئُ وَيُعِيدُ ﴿١٣﴾ وَهُوَ ٱلۡغَفُورُ ٱلۡوَدُودُ ﴿١٤﴾

Indeed, the [crushing] grip of your Lord is severe.

BACK

إِنَّهُۥ هُوَ يُبْدِئُ وَيُعِيدُ ﴿١٣﴾

For He is certainly the One Who originates and resurrects all.

BACK

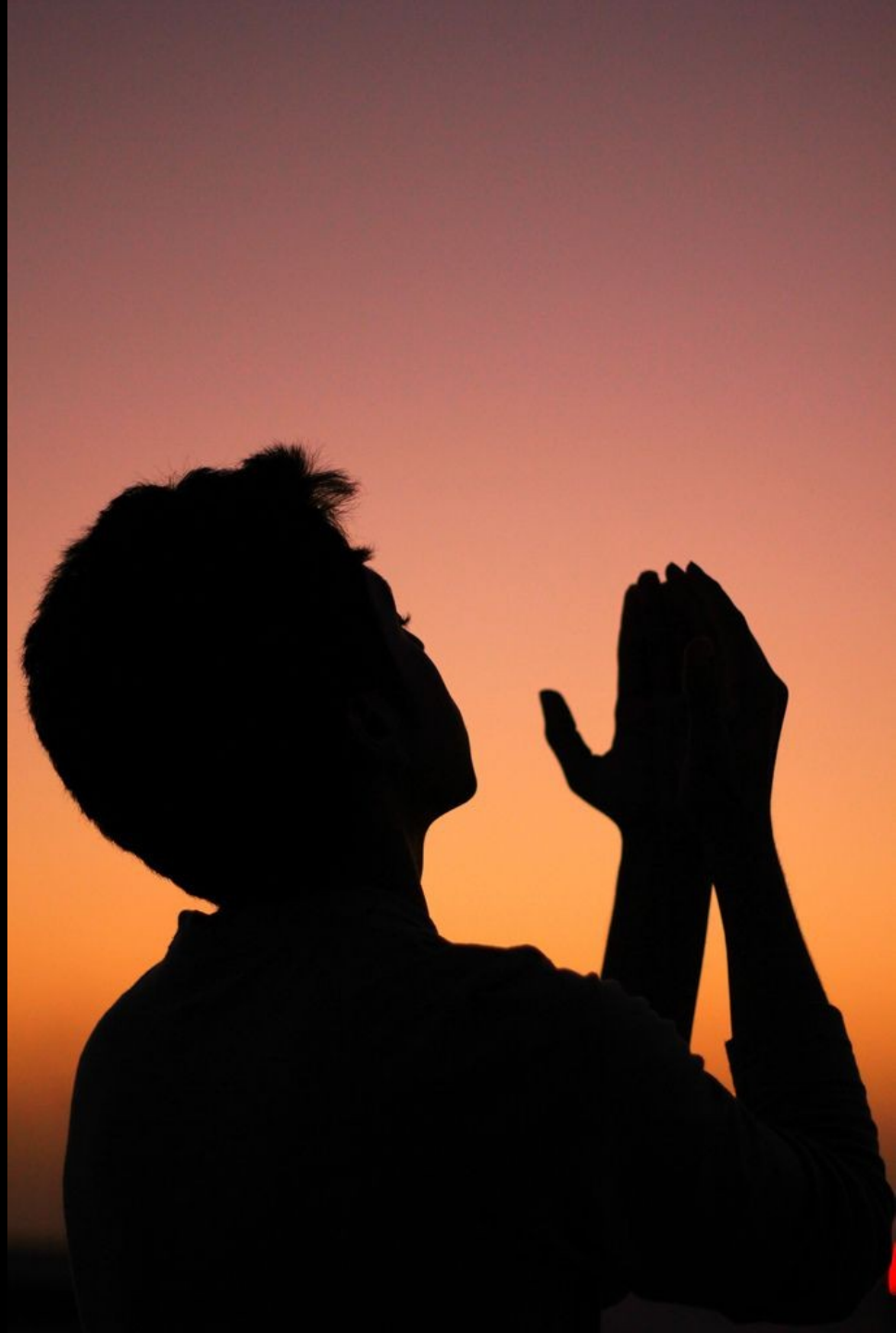
وَهُوَ ٱلْغَفُورُ ٱلْوَدُودُ ١٤

And He is the All-Forgiving, All-Loving—

BACK

ذُو ٱلْعَرْشِ ٱلْمَجِيدُ ﴿١٥﴾

Lord of the Throne, the All-Glorious,



BACK

فَعَّالٌ لِّمَا يُرِيدُ ﴿١٦﴾

Doer of whatever He wills.

BACK

ذُو ٱلۡعَرۡشِ ٱلۡمَجِيدُ ﴿١٥﴾ فَعَّالٞ لِّمَا يُرِيدُ ﴿١٦﴾ هَلۡ أَتَىٰكَ حَدِيثُ ٱلۡجُنُودِ
﴿١٧﴾ فِرۡعَوۡنَ وَثَمُودَ ﴿١٨﴾ بَلِ ٱلَّذِينَ كَفَرُواْ فِي تَكۡذِيبٖ ﴿١٩﴾ وَٱللَّهُ مِن

Has the story of the ﴿destroyed﴾ forces reached you ﴿O Prophet﴾—

BACK

فِرْعَوْنَ وَثَمُودَ ﴿١٨﴾

the forces of Pharaoh and Thamûd?

BACK

بَلِ ٱلَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا۟ فِى تَكْذِيبٍ ﴿١٩﴾

Yet the disbelievers still persist in denial.

BACK

﴿١٧﴾ فِرْعَوْنَ وَثَمُودَ ﴿١٨﴾ بَلِ ٱلَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا۟ فِى تَكْذِيبٍ ﴿١٩﴾ وَٱللَّهُ مِن
وَرَآئِهِم مُّحِيطٌۢ ﴿٢٠﴾ بَلْ هُوَ قُرْءَانٌ مَّجِيدٌ ﴿٢١﴾ فِى لَوْحٍ مَّحْفُوظٍۭ ﴿٢٢﴾

But Allah encompasses them from all sides.

BACK

بَلْ هُوَ قُرْءَانٌ مَّجِيدٌ ﴿٢١﴾

In fact, this is a glorious Quran,

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فِي لَوْحٍ مَّحْفُوظٍ ﴿٢٢﴾

recorded in a Preserved Tablet.

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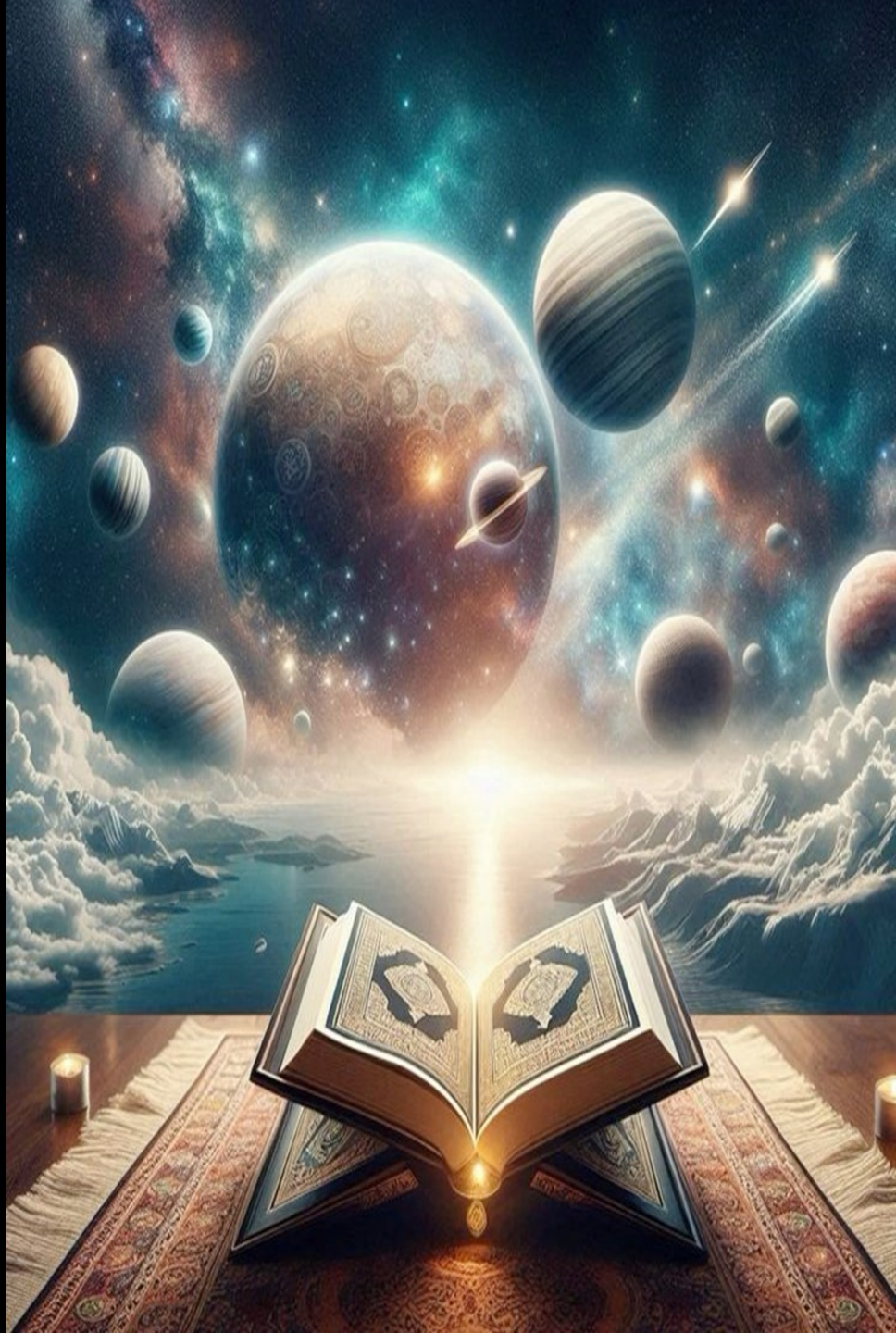

EXCERCISES
BACK

1. Rememberi ng (Recall)

1. What does the word *Al-Buruj* mean?
2. How many verses are in Surah Al-Buruj?
3. Is this surah Makki or Madani?
4. Who are referred to as “the People of the Ditch” (Ashab al-Ukhdud)?
5. What was the crime of the believers mentioned in the surah?

2. Understanding (Comprehension)

1. Explain the oath taken at the beginning of the surah.
2. Describe what happened to the believers in the story of the trench.
3. Why does the surah emphasize that Allah is a Witness over all things?
4. Summarize the main message of the surah in your own words.
5. Explain the contrast between punishment and forgiveness in the surah.

3. Applying

1. How can the story of the People of the Ditch inspire someone facing peer pressure?
2. Apply the lesson of steadfast faith to a modern-day challenge.
3. How does belief in divine justice affect personal reactions to oppression?
4. In what ways can this surah strengthen moral courage?

4. Analyzing

1. Analyze the structure of the surah: oath, narrative, warning, and promise.
2. Compare the fate of the persecutors and the persecuted.
3. What themes of power and sovereignty are emphasized?
4. Analyze how the surah balances fear and hope.

5. Evaluating

1. Why is steadfastness under persecution highly valued in Islam?
2. Evaluate the significance of divine justice in restoring balance.
3. Do you think the story serves more as a warning or a comfort? Justify your view.
4. Assess the impact of remembering historical examples of faith when facing trials.

6. Creating (Higher-Order Thinking)

1. Write a reflective paragraph connecting the surah's message to contemporary issues of religious freedom.
2. Design a classroom discussion activity about moral courage based on this surah.
3. Create a concept map linking oppression, faith, patience, and divine justice.
4. Compose a short motivational speech inspired by the lessons of Surah Al-Buruj.

و الحمد لله رب العالمين

BACK